



Committed to the future of rural communities.



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Who is Rural Development?

- Division of the United States Department of Agriculture
- Our Mission: To increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for all rural Americans
- Three Mission Areas: Housing Programs, Community Programs and Business Programs
- Invested over \$844 million in rural Indiana in 2010

Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG)
Rural Business Opportunity Grant (RBOG)
Any Other Programs



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Access to Capital

Business and Industry Guaranteed Loan Program (B&I)

Rural Economic Development Loans and Grants (REDLG)

Intermediary Relending Program (IRP)

Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG)

Technical Assistance

Rural Economic Development Loans and Grants (REDLG)

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Rural Business Opportunity Grant (RBOG)



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Energy

Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)

Biorefinery Assistance Program

Bioenergy Program for Advanced Biofuels

Repowering Assistance Program



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Local Food

Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)

Value Added Producer Grant (VAPG)

Small Socially-Disadvantaged Producer Grant (SSDPG)

Rural Cooperative Development Grant (RCDG)



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<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/in/>



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What is the Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG)?

The Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG) program provides grants for rural projects that finance and facilitate development of small and emerging rural businesses. Grants may fund a broad array of activities supporting business development.

Rural Business Enterprise Grant

- In 2011, funded 12 projects for \$836,000
- Awarded on a competitive basis
- Require no matching funds
- No maximum
- Awards are generally \$10,000 - \$500,000
- Special priority given to communities with lower populations and greatest need

Who is eligible?

- Public Entities (cities, towns, other public bodies)
- Native American Tribes
- Private, Non-profit Corporations
- Project must serve an eligible rural area

Eligible Project Costs

- Acquire/Improve land, buildings, M&E
- Pay for necessary professional services
- Provide technical assistance
- Establish revolving loan fund
- Provide distance learning/job training
- Must benefit small and emerging business

Ineligible Project Costs

- Production Agriculture (limited exceptions)
- Comprehensive, area-wide planning
- Duplicative projects
- Loans at unreasonable rates and terms

Applications

- Applications accepted all year
- Scored in March, Funded in July
- Unfunded applications compete for funds in D.C.
- One-on-one assistance available from Program Specialists located throughout the state

What is the Rural Business Opportunity Grant (RBOG)

The Rural Business Opportunity Grant (RBOG) program promotes sustainable economic development in rural communities with exceptional needs through provision of training and technical assistance for business development, entrepreneurs, and economic development officials and to assist with economic development planning.

Rural Business Opportunity Grant

- In 2011, funded 39 projects nationally for \$2.5 million
- Awards are highly competitive, determined in D.C.
- Require no matching funds
- Maximum \$50,000 single state/\$150,000 multi state
- Special priority given to projects supporting native American tribes

Who is eligible?

- Public Entities (cities, towns, other public bodies)
- Native American Tribes
- Private, Non-profit Corporations
- Cooperatives
- Project must serve eligible rural area

Eligible Project Costs

- Identify/Analyze business opportunities (export markets, feasibility studies, business plans)
- Pay for necessary professional services
- Provide technical assistance (training, leadership development)
- Establish business support centers
- Community-wide economic development planning

Ineligible Project Costs

- Application prep fees
- Costs incurred prior to effective date of grant
- Duplicative projects
- Fund political activities
- Acquisition/Development of real estate or building construction

Applications

- Notice in July, due in August, funded in October
- Applications accepted all year (don't wait for Notice)
- One on one assistance available from Program Specialists located throughout the state

Curtis Johnson | Area Specialist

Rural Development

U.S. Department of Agriculture

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